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Office of PAGR

RECEIVED

An Appeal Re: the determination to close the Sherwood Post Office, Docket # 1381521-49089
2011 NOV 28 P 2: 20

I would like to appeal the decision to close the Sherwood Post Office. My concern was not even addressed. I raised the concern that with rural postal delivery my mailbox was raided and mail was stolen. It was also hit by vandals upon many occasions, and blown apart by snow plows. I then purchased a post office box in town because of these issues.

I'd like to know why you think taking our our post office will benefit anyone? How did you get at the figures you came up with? They are based on the assumption that you will not rehire the postal worker but will not have to pay that salary, yet you say you will keep the workers employed. Therefore, your figures are in error.

You say you won't have to pay rent if you close the post office. However, how much extra space will you have to provide at other post offices? Also, how many extra workers will you have to hire to replace the extra burden on mail delivery? What about the extra gas everyone will have to use to get a post office box in another town? Have you ever considered the environment?

Also, you seemed to not list all the businesses in Sherwood, and you misspelled Union City Schools. It is not Uion but Union. You didn't list our churches or our general store, or other businesses.

Why did you rent a building all this time? The post office owned a small building when I first moved to this area in 1973. Or did you rent that too? Why can't you buy the post office building instead of rent it all these years? What will happen to the person who owns that building? How will they rent it out to anyone? Or does someone in the post office own it and profit from it?

You seem to think that you will save a lot of money by closing another small town business. I think you are not taking things into account.

It is wrong and I believe you have not thought it out. I know it will be bad for our community to lose one more thing that has been special for our beautiful little village. I also think it will be bad for the post office. I for one will take my future dealings with the post office into consideration when I use shipping. It will be just as easy for me to stop at a UPS or other mailer as to use the post office in the future, since all will include driving to another location or taking extra measures to have packages etc. picked up at home.

It would be great if rural mailboxes were safe. They just aren't. They aren't made strong enough unless you want to custom build one with bricks and mortar and put a lock on it. I have seen cars/trucks go down the rural road early in the morning, and people opening mailbox after mailbox looking for mail to steal. When I reported it, it didn't mean anything because I didn't get the license plate. The police are quite a distance from here and it takes them awhile to get here. It's not like you can easily catch a criminal in a rural area.

Why didn't you answer my questions? Why don't you care about rural communities and why didn't you think it all through? I don't think you will be saving as much as you think. Please reconsider and keep our Sherwood post office open.

Kathryn Barnes